thetech.com



WEATHER, p. 2

THU: 66° F | 44° F

Mostly sunny

FRI: 53° F | 42° F

Partly cloudy

SAT: 63° F | 40° F

P.M. showers

Volume 137, Number 3 Thursday, February 23, 2017



Ring Committee member Mo Eltahir '19 models a 2019 Brass Rat at the ring premiere.

IN SHORT

The deadline for final-term seniors to submit minor completion forms is tomorrow. There is a \$50 late fee.

The UA Sustainability Committee has created a new mailing list, is-this-recyclable@mit.edu, for students to send questions about recycling and waste sorting.

The UA's Student-Faculty Dinner and Coffee program is temporarily suspended. Students who have

already been to dinner or coffee or who have submitted the form to do so will be reimbursed, but students will not be able to sign up for future dinners or coffees until further notice.

Send news and tips to news@ tech.mit.edu.

Hackers at DataRescue aim to protect federal data from Trump's potential tampering

Students work to preserve data on autism, climate change, and vaccines, hope to keep research intact

By Emma Bingham

DataRescue Boston at MIT, a day-long hackathon focused on preserving federal data at risk of manipulation or removal by the Trump administration, took place Saturday in Walker Memorial.

Two hundred sixty people registered for the event, and between 100 and 200 showed up.

The hackathon featured four different "tracks": surveying, seeding, harvesting, and storytelling. This workflow was developed by Environmental Data and Governance Initiative and the University of Pennsylvania's DataRefuge.

The seeding track required the least technical expertise: the seeders' task was to click through a set of assigned links, marking every few links for mirroring by the Internet Archive, and flagging links that contained databases, PDFs, spreadsheets, or other formats the Archive doesn't back up. The flagged links were sent to a special app developed by EDGI that coordinates them for the harvesting track. About 80,000 total links were seeded at or after the hackathon.

The harvesting track drew the largest number of participants. The harvesters focused their efforts on four organizations: the DOE, NOAA, NASA, and the EPA. They used their technical knowledge to scrape data from webpages identified by the seeders, harvesting 53 datasets and uploading 35 gigabytes of data over the course of the hackathon.

Lead organizer Jeff Liu G noted that at previous events participants had been split closer to half-and-half between harvesting and other tracks. Liu attributed the greater

skew towards harvesting at the MIT event to the wealth of technical expertise of the MIT community.

In his introductory speech at the hackathon, Liu noted that the goal was not to create "verbatim versions" of data from government websites, just research-quality formats. For example, if the data in question existed in a series of HTML webpages, the harvesters and others processing it for storage could import it into a database instead.

Harvesters collaborated with each other, sharing code on GitHub and exchanging ideas. The volunteer coordinators urged more experienced programmers to help their less experienced peers.

At one of the EPA tables, a volunteer coordinator asked what programming languages people were using. R, the person next to her said, and someone across the table nodded assent. "We should switch seats," the coordinator said. Later, the two R users could be seen hunched over each others' screens in conversation.

The storytelling track, according to coordinator Renee H. Bell G, aimed to "show why the work actually matters." Storytellers profiled participants at the hackathon. They also researched who the stakeholders are: who uses the data archived at the hackathon? Several storytellers milled around the room interviewing participants. They also produced in-depth stories covering the data sets of the National Water Information System in the USGS. the Alternative Fuels Data Center in the DOE, and the Global Historical Climate Network in NOAA.

In the surveying track, participants researched government organizations and wrote primers about

their structure and function. The surveyors focused on the Departments of Labor, Justice, and Health and Human Services: organizations to which the DataRescue movement is hoping to expand its efforts.

During the hackathon, the surveyors managed to write five main agency primers and 16 agency sub-primers covering these departments along with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Communications Commission.

Participants at the surveying tables discussed their motivations with the storytellers and the press. One student from Harvard Medical School, who asked to remain anonymous, expressed fear the Trump administration will create fake CDC data to link vaccines and autism. In his research, he is working to develop a tool to detect autism at birth and "show that [it] exists way before the vaccination."

"I don't want to see measles killing 1,000 children a year like it used to," he said.

Another M.D./Ph.D. student at the Health and Human Services table described herself as "not a very political person," but said she thought it was important to preserve

At another of the surveying tables, Alex V. Konradi G, a master's student in CSAIL, was writing up a primer on the Executive Office of Immigration Review in the Department of Justice.

"I read the news and it scares me," he said. To him, the possibility that scientific data could be manipulated by the government behind our backs is "Orwellian."

DataRescue, Page 10

MIT's Volpe project to bring new housing, open space & businesses to a lackluster Kendall Square

Cambridge residents voice concerns about planned construction on the 14-acre plot

By Marie Patino

Affordable housing, sustainability, business, and scientific research are among the top priorities for MIT's Volpe Center redevelopment project. The project will include significant renovations to the Kendall Square MBTA station and the construction of 300 additional housing units, some of which will make up a new MIT graduate residence hall replacing Eastgate.

David Manfredi, an architect at Elkus-Manfredi, presented the plans for the future Volpe site, along with a number of other speakers, at a meeting held Thursday afternoon for communities affected by or involved with the redevelopment process.

MIT announced the \$750 million purchase of the 14-acre Volpe site, owned by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Jan. 18. As a result of the deal, MIT can develop freely on the parcel as long as it constructs a new Volpe facility before initiating additional construction on the site.

The deal goes back as far as Aug. 2014, when the General Services Administration (GSA) announced the Volpe Center was available for federal

solicitations. MIT responded to the call and was selected in Nov. 2016 by the GSA.

Parallel to this federal process, the City of Cambridge started a city planning process to involve residents of Cambridgew in the design. It put in place two working groups specifically dedicated to the Volpe initiative, one affiliated with MIT and the other with the city itself.

The Kendall Square Initiative, presented at the meeting by Steve Marsh, managing director of real estate for the MIT Investment Management Company, will transform six

parking lots into public areas meant to bring people together and invite them to share insights and knowledge through open spaces that can host concerts and food trucks.

Many residents voiced concerns during the question-and-answer session. A resident of Cambridge criticized upon the decision that large amounts of money were to be invested in renovating the Kendall T station, but nothing was planned for the Central station. "The fact that you, as an institute with the best transportation sector in the world, are missing out on it is appalling," she said. Her

remark was met by silence from the presenters.

Participants also expressed concerns about the effect the site would have on traffic flows, and on the possible rarefaction of affordable parking it would trigger.

A resident of East Cambridge also voiced her concern about the impact construction sites such as Volpe have had on Cambridge's landscape. "When I moved to East Cambridge in 1984, people were able to sit down and watch the fireworks on the 4th of July," she said. "Now all they can see is the Marriott sign."

BUBBLE REBUTTAL

In defense of MIT's response to political developments. **OPIN-ION**, **p. 4**

INSIDE OUT

New student gallery represents mental disorders through art. **ART, p. 6**

THE BLACK HOLE

The joys and sorrows of the female reproductive organ. **ARTS**, **p. 7**



A VISIT FROM SNL

Leslie Jones swears, shares, and tells MIT students to live a little. **ARTS**, **p. 7**

THE PILLARS OF HUMANITY

A Syrian professor of architecture shares his core principles. **CAM-PUS LIFE, p. 5**

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2 The Tech
Thursday, February 23, 2017

WEATHER

Fast-forward to spring

By Vince Agard
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Today's temperatures will be more than 20°F (11 K) warmer than normal for this time of year, as winter meets its premature demise in much of the United States. It has been a week since the high temperature observed at Boston's Logan Airport was colder than its climatological normal, and today's warm weather would be more suited for mid-May than for late February. This anomalous warmth is part of a pattern that has generated springlike weather over the East and the South, causing temperature records to be broken at many sites in those regions. Anomalously warm weather is forecast to continue for at least two more weeks east of a

line running roughly from Texas to Wisconsin. With the first day of astronomical spring less than a month away, the prospect of a return to winter is becoming increasingly unlikely.

Southwesterly flow associated with a low pressure system to our north will cause temperatures to skyrocket into the 60s (°F) this afternoon. Another pleasant morning is on tap for tomorrow, with temperatures eclipsing 50°F (10°C) by midday. But a back-door cold front will be coming in from the northeast, knocking the temperature back into the 40s (°F) by mid-afternoon. Southwesterly warming will return for Saturday, but showers and a possible thunderstorm will be in the mix as a strong cold front approaches by Saturday night.

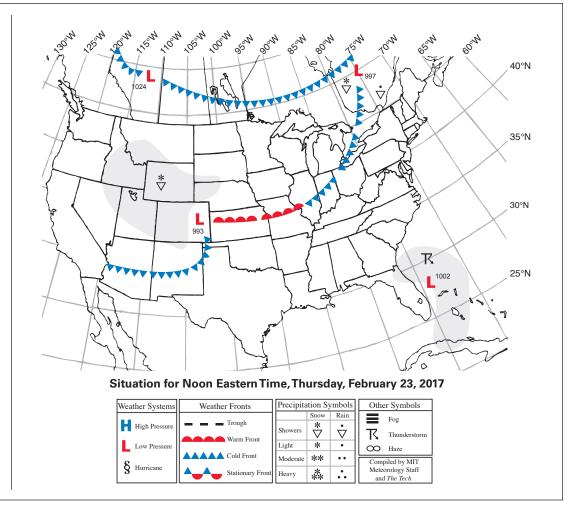
Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, high 66°F (18°C). Winds SW at 5-10 mph. Tonight: Clear, low 44°F (7°C). Winds light and variable.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers, high 53°F (12°C). Winds E at 5-10 mph.

Saturday: Partly cloudy with showers or thunderstorms in the afternoon or evening, highs in the low 60s °F (17°C).

Sunday: Mostly sunny, highs in the upper 40s °F (8°C)



Trump rescinds directive that compelled schools to let trans students use their preferred restroom

By Jeremy W. Peters, Jo Becker and Julie Hirschfeld Davis

THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Donald Trump on Wednesday rescinded protections for transgender students that had allowed them to use bathrooms corresponding with their gender identity, overruling his own education secretary and placing his administration firmly in the middle of the culture wars that many Republicans have tried to leave behind.

In a joint letter, the top civil rights officials from the Justice Department and the Education Department rejected the Obama administration's position that non-discrimination laws require schools

to allow transgender students to use the bathrooms of their choice.

That directive, they said, was improperly and arbitrarily devised, "without due regard for the primary role of the states and local school districts in establishing educational policy."

The question of how to address the "bathroom debate," as it has

become known, opened a rift inside the Trump administration, pitting Education Secretary Betsy DeVos against Attorney General Jeff

Sessions, who had been expected to move quickly to roll back the civil rights expansions put in place under his Democratic predecessors, wanted to act decisively because of two pending court cases that could have upheld the protections and pushed the government into further litigation.

But DeVos initially resisted signing off and told Trump that she was uncomfortable because of the potential harm that rescinding the protections could cause transgender students, according to three Republicans with direct knowledge of the internal discussions.

Sessions, who has opposed expanding gay, lesbian and transgender rights, pushed DeVos to relent. After getting nowhere, he took his

objections to the White House because he could not go forward without her consent. Trump sided with his attorney general, the Republicans said, and told DeVos in a meeting in the Oval Office on Tuesday that he wanted her to drop her opposition. And DeVos, faced with the alternative of resigning or defying the president, agreed to go along.

DeVos' unease was evident in a strongly worded statement she released Wednesday night, in which she said that she considered it a "moral obligation" for every school in America to protect all students from discrimination, bullying and harassment.

She said she had directed the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights to investigate all claims of such treatment "against those who are most vulnerable in our schools," but also argued that bathroom access was not a federal matter

STARR FORUM

NATIONAL SECURITY & CIVIL LIBERTIES 1942 & 2017



SAT, FEB 25 2 PM - 4 PM MIT Bartos Theater E15-070

Behavioral Science and Nudges

Environmental Protection and Sustainability

MON, FEB 27 | 2 PM - 3:30 PM | MIT Bartos Theater, E15-070



THE FIGHT OVER FOREIGNERS

Visas & Immigration in the Trump Era

TUES, FEB 28 | 5 PM - 6:30 PM | MIT Wong Auditorium | E51-115



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A sampling of people you'll meet during a typical dinner at *The Tech*:

Lenny, Course 2 Samir, Course 16 Michelle, Course 3 Katherine, Course 17 Jiahao, Course 6 Claire, Course 18 Jack, Course 19 Patricia, Course 8 Tara, Course 20 Vivian, Course 9 Mirny, Course 21 Amy, Course 10 Vince, Course 12 Karleigh, CMS Fiona, Course 14 Alex, Course 22

We're everywhere!



join@tech.mit.edu W20-483, 617-253-1541

Join us for dinner, Sunday 6 p.m. (W20-483)

Thursday, February 23, 2017

The Tech 3

DAVID BOWIE'S BLACKSTAR

new orchestral arrangements by Jamshied Sharifi & Evan Ziporyn played by Mellon Distinguished Visiting Artist

MAYA BEISER

AND THE AMBIENT ORCHESTRA

The Terry and Rick Stone Concert / March 3, 2017 / 7:30pm / Kresge





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GUEST COLUMN

Beyond the bubble

MIT's official responses to political developments are warranted and appropriate

By Hairuo Guo

Few accusations ring as loudly or often as that of corrupting the youth. Last Thursday Daniel J. Newman became the latest person to yank that village bell, taking the UA leadership and Chancellor's office to task for their actions in the current political climate. He makes the following allegations in his opinion piece: that by asking faculty to be understanding with coursework in the wake of the election and by inviting students to rally against President Trump's immigration order, both committed the crime of partisanship and added more surfactant to the proverbial bubble. In doing so, the accused forced upon students their own liberal vices: self-pity, denial, and a crippling reliance on therapy puppies.

While the campus wide dependency on adorable dogs resists debate, the rest of Newman's points are more assailable. First, there is the issue of "nonpartisanship." Indeed, Federal code prevents tax-exempt non-profits like MIT from contributing to the campaigns of candidates and from devoting a substantial portion of their activities to lobbying. However, to assume that these imply a legal obligation towards absolute political neutrality is to perform a dazzling feat of mental gymnastics. Just as how Brigham Young University (another tax-exempt educational non-profit) may take a moral stance and impose upon its students a restrictive honor code, so is it MIT's right — if not its duty — to act in accordance with its own mission. That mission is, officially, "to advance knowledge and educate students in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century."

Were invitations to oppose the Executive Order in pursuance of this mission? Newman contends that both undergraduates immediately affected were able to return to campus by the time of the rally; he neglects to account for the fact that had the order remained uncontested, it would have precluded future trips abroad. He also fails to consider the graduate students and faculty who were and would have been impacted — a combined population greater in number than the undergraduates. As far as faculty and students must be physically present to teach, to conduct research, and to learn, it is evident that the Chancellor's office and the UA leadership did act rightfully, even appropriately.

The same sort of straightforward reasoning implies that calls for faculty understanding were also justified. Newman makes the astute observation that Trump's victory was largely unexpected among students; unfortunately, he then takes this to mean that the outpouring of emotion that followed stemmed from soreness over Hillary Clinton's loss. To quote our president, "Wrong." What shook so many then and has since galvanized more is not that a Republican won and a Democrat lost: it is that an impulsive, crass, and morally bankrupt man was chosen for the nation's highest office. Trump's attempts to warp objective reality with his "alternative facts" amount to an attack on the notion of knowledge itself. His reflexive scapegoating of the media is a threat to democracy — his childish denial of climate change a threat to the world. If we are indeed to embrace the values of "learning and interacting with reality," as Newman offers, and the MIT mission to "advance knowledge and educate," then we must continue to look for the full implications of Trump's time in power, just as we struggled to do so on November 9.

Newman finds "endless irony" in the hypocrisy that liberals apparently exude, but he forgets to look closer to home. Despite referring to safe spaces with derision, he seems keen on constructing his own shelter against uncomfortable truths. The fact is that this is not another chapter in the age-old conflict between liberals and conservatives - if those two words are even anything more than empty epithets. Trump's manipulation of the working class and his utterly unpresidential character should worry any sensible person. A cursory glance finds consternation emerging from across the political spectrum and with it, a growing willingness to engage. Instead of retreating into the comfort of their bubbles, people are taking action. They have realized that although he may be the nominal leader of the country, he is not their leader.

Which begs these questions, to those who still feel alienated: why is he yours, and to what ends of the earth will you follow him?

Hairuo Guo is a member of the Class of 2017.

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Dissents are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority.

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By Opinion Writer

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or join us for dinner, Sunday 6 p.m. (W20-483)

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Thursday, February 23, 2017 THE TECH 5

TECH TRANSFERS

Nasser Rabbat

Immigrant members of the MIT community



US LIFE CAMPUS LIFE

Nasser Rabbat, the Aga Khan Professor in the Department of Architecture.

I have spent more than half of my life at MIT. Having studied architecture in my native Damascus, Syria, I came to the U.S. to specialize in passive solar energy at the University of California, Los Angeles. My love of history eventually brought me to

MIT to pursue my PhD in the History and Theory of Architecture in 1984. I have not left since. I met my partner of 27 years, Randa, in Cairo while researching my dissertation. We have one son, Kinan, and one cat, O'Katie.

I teach Islamic Architecture, and I am committed to two pedagogical philosophies: the humanistic basis of modern education and the power of art and culture in bringing people together.

Nasser Rabbat is the Aga Khan Profes-

sor in the Department of Architecture, and the Director of the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture.

Editor's note: Tech Transfers is a photo series by Professor Daniel Jackson that features immigrant members of MIT.

Do you have a story to tell?

Can you tell a personal story in writing or in an interview?

The Tech wants to publish stories from the MIT community



Sample topics:

Experiencing discrimination at MIT

Choosing between divergent career paths

Your slice of MIT culture

Romance at MIT

Or anything else you can tell as a compelling story

Join us for dinner, Sunday 6 p.m. (W20-483) or Email cl@the-tech.mit.edu with stories or proposals 6 THE TECH THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2017

CONCERT REVIEW

Jelly and George brings two composers



Aaron Diehl presents Jelly and George

Presented by the Celebrity Series of Boston

Berklee Performance Center

Feb. 17, 2017

ART GALLERY REVIEW

Two guys walk into a bar. They might even be frenemies, as pianist Aaron Diehl joked to the audience, but they would have something in common - jazzimbued music. If Ferdinand "Jelly Roll" Morton and George Gershwin had met in history, the result would be spectacular.

Enter Diehl, who presents the closest thing to such collaboration between the two: a repertoire of pieces from these two renowned composers in one concert. Calling upon the spirit of the early 20th century, Diehl and Adam Birnbaum opened the evening with a piano duet of experimental, unsettling rhythms. Full of elegant trills and syncopated chords, the two piano lines interlaced in an intriguing

The duet was soon joined by Paul Sikivie on the bass and Lawrence Leathers on the drums, followed by Riley Mulherkar on the trumpet, Evan Christopher on the clarinet, and Corey Wilcox on the

When vocalist Cécile McLorin Salvant joined in, her rhapsodic voice enchanted the crowd. Salvant's lilting vocals were reminiscent of Ella Fitzgerald's, with equal lyrical sensitivity and emotional expression. Her style, however, was clearly her own. Salvant's sultry singing was more subdued in Gershwin's "Boy! What Has Love Done to Me!" but her voice took on a life of its own with Morton's "I Hate a Man Like You." She bellowed Morton's lyrics with a remarkable dynamic range and clarity. Her guttural delivery of the repeated "I hate a man like you!" delivered the same raw emotion that permeate the lyrics. It is no wonder the vocalist has been critically acclaimed in recent years.

The pianos' chemistry found its brilliance in later pieces, particularly with Gershwin's Prelude No. 2, but with the horns carrying the jazzy groove, the performance hall was colored with a newfound sense of thrill. In Morton's songs "Mississippi Mildred" and "Black Bottom Stomp," the various solo parts of Mulherkar's trumpet and Christopher's clarinet invigorated the atmosphere. Other notable selections included Gershwin's "Ask Me Again" and "My Man is Dead," both performed with the same vigor as the previous songs. Salvant's vocals once again took center stage with Gershwin's lyrics.

After a standing ovation and two encore performances, it was clear that the concert had something for everyone. The stage where Morton meets Gershwin linked two composers known for innovation in jazz. This haven of lyrical and instrumental intrigue enthralled both the music lover and passerby.

Open Mind:: Open Art depicts student artwork on mental health



The gallery includes a live mural, where visitors can continue to add their art until the exhibit closes on March 2.

By Anshula Gandhi

The Open Mind :: Open Art exhibit, which opened on Feb. 16, seeks to "celebrate neurodiversity" - and acknowledge various states of the mind, including depression, anxiety, and other mental disorders.

One particularly provocative collection, by artist Gian-Carlo Filippi, consisted of four depictions of disorders.

Body dysmorphia, unknown abilities, depression, and schizophrenia were each depicted as a morphed figure, with phrases relating to the disorder written on relevant parts of the body.

For example, the figure expressing body dysmorphia had "distorted perception of the thighs" written across its emaciated thighs, and "seeking surgery" written across its warped stomach. Writing symptoms on a body made the symptoms of these disorders feel personal, rather than medical.

The figure representing the unknown abilities disorder was completely devoid of words, but its stomach was ripped open to reveal seashells inside. One onlooker interpreted it as feeling like a shell of a person. Another interpreted it as having a "hard outer shell."

"I wanted these beings to be monstrous and jarring, without being disrespectful to those who suffer from the mental illnesses they represent," said Filippi.

Another exhibit, titled "Stitched Together," showed six squares with faces on them. Some faces looked sad, some anxious, some hopeless. Each face was made out of sewn-together fabric. The stitched-together faces in juxtaposition relayed a feeling of falling apart and recovery.

"We hope that when you look into the expressions we portrayed, you can empathize and see that no matter how broken vou may feel, that you can stitch yourself together," said the artists, siblings Allan and Danny Gelman '20.

The piece looked effortless and professional, despite it being their first major sewing project. They were inspired by a piece of artwork in Russia that depicted a landscape with pieces of fabric — but, when the fabric was viewed at a distance, it looked like a regular painting.

"Up close, the faces are just a bunch of broken pieces, but if you step back,

you don't see the struggle or obstacles or baggage etched into their skin, all you see is people strong enough that made it through," said the Gelmans.

One painting, called "By Oneself," depicts a girl, seconds from being devoured vby an oncoming wave. Her back faces it, and her fists are clenched as she braces herself. The near-life-size painting, thoughtful and awe-inspiring, portrayed the girl as dwarfed by the tall wave.

"Depression felt to me like ocean waves. Something small would happen: a misunderstanding, a poorly worded comment, a literal spilled glass of milk. And then an earthly wind would blow and set off the waves," wrote the artist, who wishes to remain anonymous. "If you're looking at an ocean, it's the most peaceful thing. And when there's not a wave there, you can't even remember how bad it was."

The opening night also included stations from technology companies invested in improving mental health. The fact that companies were allowed to advertise in an art gallery, while unconventional, enhanced the exhibit with a "live"

One company, Martian Wearables

Open Mind :: Open

Gallery Curator and Creative Director: Jessica Artiles '12, MEng '15

Stratton Student Center W20, First floor

Gallery on view from Feb. 16 to Mar. 2

seeks to drive down the cost of brain imaging, especially to support mental health research. The company aims to make their EEGs priced affordably so that they can, according to Ruelas, be "available to everybody so you can have quantitative data on your state of mind."

"People suffering from mental health disorders still face an unfortunate stigma. When you say that you have anxiety depression, or ADHD, so many people will roll their eyes," said Martin Molina, cofounder of Martian Wearables.

The company wants to accelerate providing quantitative data to support research into the diagnoses of mental health disorders. They aim to do this through their device, an ultra-affordable EEG.

"There's so much room for error with qualitative diagnosis," said John Ruelas, the other Martian Wearables co-founder.

The Gallery Curator and Creative Director is Jessica Artiles, MIT alum. "She shoots high," said Hannah Capponi '17 of Artiles. "I know Jess, and she's not the type of person to give up. If she wants something like this [exhibit] to happen again, it will happen again."

The event will be on display in the Student Center, just to the right of the Verde's entrance, until Mar. 2. I'd recommend that any student stop by, and check out what their peers have created, especially for anyone seeking solace in empathy from

More events for the exhibit, including food events and discussions on spirituality, can be found at https://www.theartofy. com/calendar.

THEATER REVIEW

MIT Stop Our Silence presents *The Vagina Monologues*

Eve Ensler's play on womanhood and empowerment gets an MIT twist

The Vagina Monologues

MIT Stop Our Silence

Stata Center

Dominguez '17

Directors: Rose Robb '17,

Ana Rossitto '18, Patricia

Lisa Lozano '17, Leigh-

Feb. 17-19, 2017

By Anshula Gandhi

The Vagina Monologues began with a lively discussion of what vaginas are called in different majors.

"In course 6, they call it the 'Big O."
"In course 12, they call it the 'black hole."

The show was a series of monologues by women discussing their vaginas. This particular performance was an adaptation of Eve Ensler's original play, which was created using interviews with 200 women.

Though each actress related events in first person, the events had happened to other women, not to themselves (the stories were collected from interviews by Eve Ensler). The acting, however, made the personal anecdotes come alive.

Some stories were personal and emotional — for example, a story of a husband cheating "because" his wife refused to shave

Other stories were traumatic. One

monologue depicted a woman being raped by soldiers who took turns for seven days and shoved foreign objects such as broomsticks and rifles inside her. Another described female genital mutilation. Yet another described violence against transgender women.

Yet other stories were laugh-out-loud hilarious. One actress described her experience seeing her vagina for the first time: "Up until this point, everything I knew about my vagina was based on hearsay or invention. I'd never looked at the thing!"

A common theme was the incredible lack of willingness to talk about vaginas and education about everything they do. One actress put on an impeccable "conservative grandmother" impression, as she refused to talk about her "down there" to her therapist.

Many tried to put beauty into the things we don't think of as beautiful. When talk-

ing about periods, one actress declared that "I like the drops that drop into the toilet — like paint."

The acting was energetic and emotional — I can only imagine how incredibly difficult it must be to get up in front of a crowd of a hundred strangers and talk about the most intimate parts of yourself.

One overall theme was empowerment. As one actress put it, "My short skirt, believe it or not, has nothing to do with you."

Each actress incorporated her own personality and quirks into the monologue — so I'd imagine it would be greatly different each time MIT presents it. Next year, I'd recommend going — Stop Our Silence puts on the show yearly, and this year marked the 16th production.

All proceeds from the performance go to benefit Incest Resources, a volunteer organization founded for survivors for childhood sexual abuse.

COMEDY REVIEW

SNL's Leslie Jones provides a night of raunchy fun



COURTESY OF LESLIE JONES

Leslie Jones, known for her work on Saturday Night Live and her performance in *Ghost-busters* (2016), performed in Kresge on Feb. 19.

Leslie Jones

Sponsored by the De Florez Fund for Humor

Kresge Theatre

Feb. 19, 2017

By Rona Wang

You might recognize Leslie Jones's name from *Ghostbusters* (2016), where she starred as Patty Tolan. You might know her from *Saturday Night Live*, which she joined in 2013. Or you might know her from the online attacks against her, led by alt-right figure Milo Yiannopoulos.

On Sunday night, Leslie Jones performed for a packed house in Kresge. Right off the bat, she expressed astonishment at the audience: "Wow, I was *not* expecting so many white people!"

The crowd tittered.

Along the same vein, she told a story of being recognized by a couple with a toddler — while she was smoking marijuana. Other stories included trying to seduce the singer Prince, only to have her ponytail fly off while dancing; casually mentioning to an old friend that she was talking to Tom Hanks and receiving an annoyed response; and awkward booty calls mistaken for relationships.

My favorite segment, though, was her reply to the online attacks last year. A brief recap: after *Ghostbusters* was released, Jones

received racist vitriol on Twitter, leading her to delete her account. Later, her personal website was hacked, and photos of her passport and driver's license were posted. In addition, her nude photographs and a reference to Harambe were published.

While her exact words are too profanity-laced to insert, the gist was: at age 49, she's trying to lure in as many potential partners as possible, so this only helped her. Of course, there was some awkwardness with her aunts, who wanted to know why their niece's photos had somehow ended up on their screen — after all, old people are bad at using computers.

Essentially, by joking about the online attacks, she reclaimed her power. She refused to become a victim.

In the last portion of her show, Jones wandered into the audience, teasing us students for not enjoying our youth enough. "How old are you?" she asked one girl. Twenty-three, was the reply. "I don't even *remember* what I did at age 23," Jones said. "You know what? Because I *lived*."

She proceeded to speculate on students' sex lives and friendships. "Are you three witches?" she asked a trio. "Don't you need a fourth member?" She rubbed a man's balding head and licked his scalp—gingerly, he used her towel to wipe off her saliva.

Leslie Jones summed up the show best: "Don't expect this to be like *Saturday Night Live*!" While her weekly show abides by (mostly) family-friendly standards, Jones's one-woman show was raunchier and rawer. It was clear that she was unafraid to be unabashedly honest, loud, and sexual. She might as well have said: *this is me, take it or leave it.*

DID YOUR MIT ESSAYS GET YOU IN?

The Tech is collecting successful application essays (hint: yours!).

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Methionine

Solution, page 11

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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Isoleucine

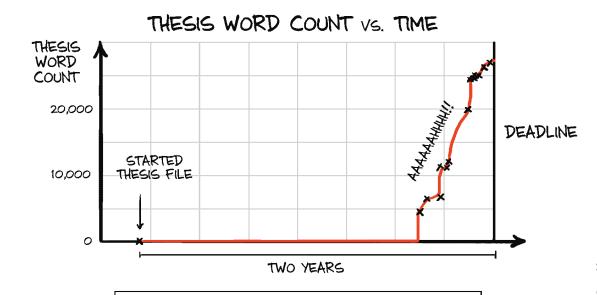
Solution, page 11

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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.



by Jorge Cham



THE MAIN THING MY THESIS PROVED WAS HOW MUCH I PROCRASTINATE

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

ALL THE FUNCTIONS YOU'VE WRITTEN

[1790] Sad







YOUR PROJECTS

HAVE STAGNATED.

BUT MY STARDEU VALLEY



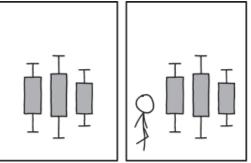
I'M GLAD YOU'RE INCLUDING MORE

WOULD BE NICE IF THEY WERE

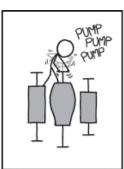
COMMENTS IN YOUR CODE, BUT IT TAKE EVERYTHING PASSED TO THEM AND RETURN IT UNCHANGED WITH THE COMMENT "NO, YOU DEAL WITH THIS." IT'S A FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING THING. AVOIDING SIDE EFFECTS. YOU AVOID ALL EFFECTS. ONLY WAY TO BE SURE.

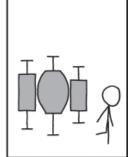
With the right 90-degree rotation, any effect is a side effect.

[1798] Box Plot



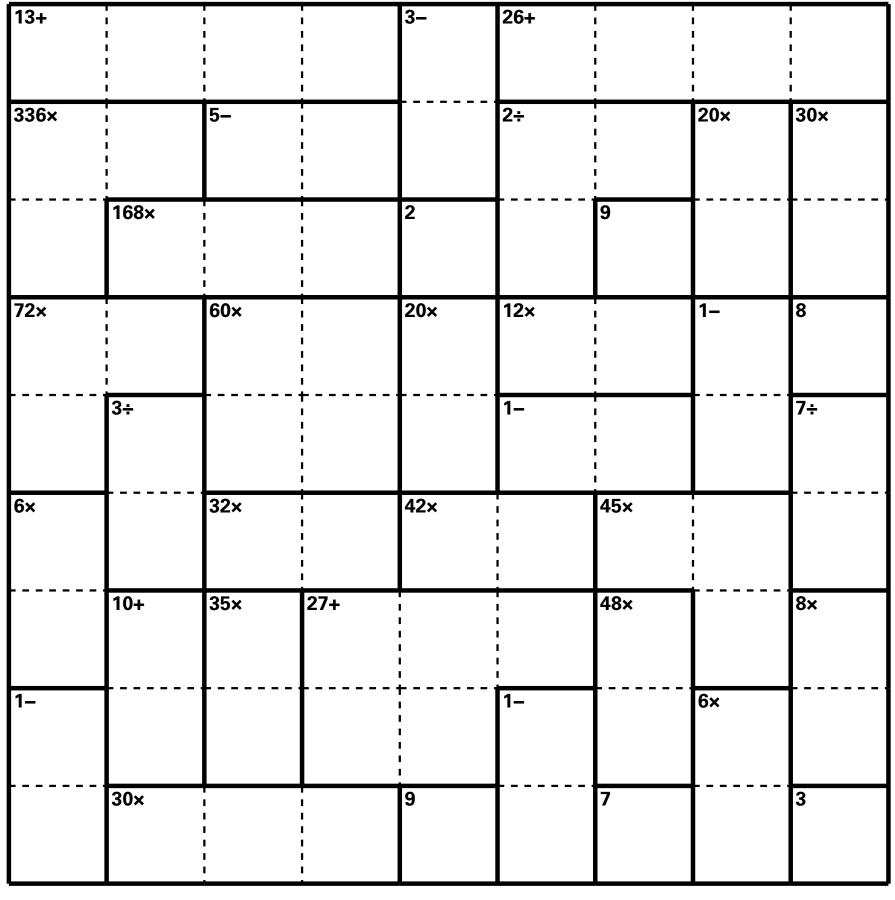






You have to be careful doing this. Sometimes, when you push the whisker down, dynamite explodes.

Threonine



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Fish-Finder by Clive Probert

ACROSS

- 1 Pant
- 5 Dish damage
- 9 Monarch's order 14 Author O'Brien
- 15 Pick on
- 16 "Inviting Intelligence"
- group 17 Weak tide
- 18 New-__ (Enya fan, perhaps)
- 19 Sort of boatyard 20 Senate, for one
- 23 Auto options
- 24 Preallocate
- 28 Crow's nest cry
- 29 Schoolyard pursuit
- 30 Flair
- 31 Scottish cattle
- 34 Recurring theme
- 36 Clinch
- 37 Business' booking
- department
- 40 Mineralogy ending 41 Unvarnished
- 42 At the ready 43 Fare selection

- 45 Homer's neighbor
- 46 False front
- 47 Spaghetti or linguine
- 49 Extols
- 53 Sci-fi staple
- 55 Institución financiera
- 58 Feathery accessories 59 Golden rule element
- 60 Spotify selection
- 61 Mag name that means
- "she"
- 62 Abysmal
- 63 "Cruise Capital of the World"
- 64 Some fowls
- 65 Is mistaken

DOWN

- 1 Taxonomic category
- 2 Quite capable
- 4 To-go holder
- 7 Discussion starting point

- 3 Potter's potions professor
- 5 Poland's second city
- 6 Stock market stats
- 8 Diffused through

- 9 Something glowing in a
- grate 10 "This isn't good!"
- 11 Walk-__ (surprise customers)
- 12 Vegas-set series
- 13 Beagle shade
- 21 Lucidity
- 22 Give up
- 25 Vibrant
- 26 One on a fast track
- 27 Showed reverence, perhaps
- 29 Hauled
- 31 Etchers' purchases
- 32 Schoolyard shout
- 33 Australian feminist author
- 34 Puts cash down
- 35 Brawl
- 38 Motown music
- 39 Aviation concern 44 Soft rock
- 46 Pops up
- 48 Wynonna's mom 49 King David writing
- 17 18 19 20 21 23 25 | 26 | 27 24 28 30 31 |32 |33 36 40 42 43 44 45 46 50 |51 |52 47 53 54 55 | 56 | 57 58 61 62 63 64 65
 - 50 More lucid
 - 51 Pierce
 - 52 Bus driver's concerns
 - 54 Unaided
- 55 Impact sound 56 Aladdin prince
- 57 Where many highly paid guards work

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authors@mit

Tuesday, February 28, 6 pm The MIT Press Bookstore 301 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge



The MIT Press Bookstore presents Meryl Alper, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Northeastern University and author of Giving Voice: Mobile Communication, Disability, and Inequality (MIT Press), in conversation with Jennifer S. Light, Department Head and Professor of Science, Technology and Society at MIT, at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, February 28 at the Bookstore.



Mobile technologies are often hailed as a way to "give voice to the voiceless." Behind the praise, though, are beliefs about technology as a gateway to opportunity and voice as a metaphor for agency and self-representation. In Giving Voice, Meryl Alper explores these assumptions by looking closely at one such case—the use of the Apple iPad and mobile app Proloquo2Go, which converts icons

and text into synthetic speech, by children with disabilities (including autism and cerebral palsy) and their families.

Hackers say the data they are protecting could save lives, hope to prevent diseases with research

DataRescue, from Page 1

Next to Konradi sat Michael Altman, director of research at MIT Libraries. Trained in social sciences and experienced in methods of research, he was a natural fit for the Department of Justice table. He spoke about the role of MIT Libraries in helping to organize the hackathon. "The library has a long history of engaging in stewardship and preservation," he said, and preserving the at-risk government data is now a part of that effort.

DataRescue Boston at MIT was hosted by MIT Libraries, the Association of Computational Science and Engineering Students, and EDGI, with support from the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative, the Center for Computational Engineering, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Graduate Student Council.

The event is part of a larger national movement organized by EDGI and DataRefuge. EDGI is a U.S.-based organization formed in November to monitor changes in federal agencies and archive federal environmental data to ensure it remains publicly accessible.

Organizer Jeff Liu spoke about the origin of the MIT event. Articles related to the DataRescue mission "popped up in one of the news feeds that I read," he said, and "I wanted to find a way to contribute my background." He contacted national organizers of the movements to see if there was anyone organizing an event at MIT. As it turned out, no one was doing so, but a number of EDGI members were located in Boston. They joined together to form DataRescue Boston and plan events in

DataRescue Boston previously hosted a hackathon event at Harvard Feb. 1, and they plan to host another at Northeastern Mar. 24. They also host a weekly MIT working group on Thursday evenings from 5-8 p.m. in room 5-233.



#16 Skylar Kauffman '19 serves the ball against Kean. The Engineers won 3-0.

The Tech is looking for

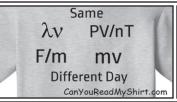
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Solution to Methionine

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Solution to Threonine

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Solution to Fish-Finder

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INTELLECTUAL VENTURES





IAVIGANT











SPORTS BLITZ

Men's Volleyball (15-3) went undefeated this week with four wins over Emerson College, Kean University, Elms College, and John Jay College. The Engineers didn't lose a single set, going 3-0 in all of their matches.

Men's Basketball (19-6) beat Emerson in overtime this past Tuesday, then fell in a close battle with Babson College in their final game of the regular season. They will play WPI in the NEWMAC semifinals on Saturday.

Women's Basketball (20-5) dominated over Wellesley College this past Wednesday but lost to WPI on Saturday, and will play Smith College in the NEWMAC quarterfinals on Wednesday Feb. 22.

Men's Tennis (2-0) defeated the U.S. Naval Academy in a commanding 6-1 victory, marking their second victory of the season, all against Division I opponents.

Women's Tennis (10-0) won the NEWMAC tournament this weekend with victories over Mount Holyoke College and Wellesley College, earning them a berth in the NCAA Divison III Tournament.

Squash (19-5) won the consolation finals after going 2-1 in the College Squash Association Team National Championship and broke the single season wins record with their 19th win of the season over Dickinson College.

Swimming and Diving claimed NEWMAC championships this week on both the men's and women's teams. This is the seventh straight victory for the women's team and the ninth for the men's. Kayla Holman '20 and Bouke Edskes '20 were both named NEWMAC Rookie of the Year.

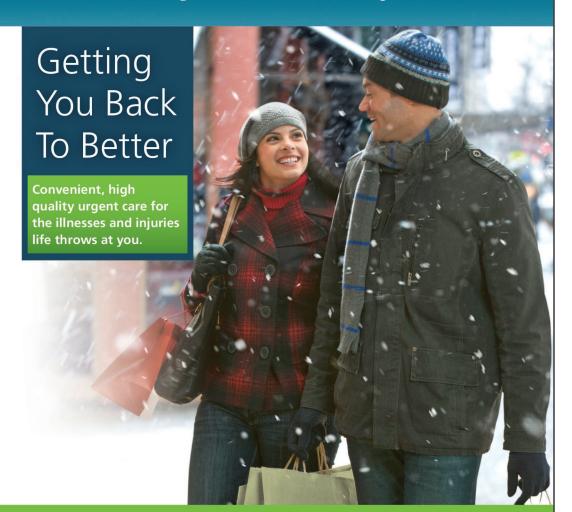


LILY BAILEY—THE TECH

Jeffrey Hu '18 returns the ball to his Amherst opponent in the consolation bracket semifinals. Hu won the game 3-0.

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